

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1144

ANSWERED ON:10.03.2005

BAN ON INDIAN CARRIERS

Karunakaran Shri P.;Rao Shri Devarakonda Vittal;Singh Shri Chandra Bhushan

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to ban Indian Carriers from flying on a particular route for two years if they fail to use fully the rights granted for that route as reported in `The Hindu` of January 23, 2005;

(b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of the new guidelines issued in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE(INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) & (b):Yes, Sir. As per the guidelines issued by the Government, an airline would face a ban of two years on the route on which it fails to operate after getting traffic rights. This has been done with a view to discouraging airlines from seeking traffic rights without making serious preparations for actively utilising it.

(c): As per the guidelines notified by the DGCA, Indian Scheduled Carriers with continuous operations of at least 5 years in domestic sector and having a minimum fleet size of 20 aircraft are permitted to operate on international routes. Operational plans of Air India and Indian Airlines are given due consideration before allocation of routes to other scheduled airlines. If the total entitlements fall short of the requirements projected by the eligible airlines, inter-se allocation of entitlements will be in the ratio of Available Seat Kilometer (ASKM) deployed by the scheduled carriers over last 5 years.